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The COLUMBIAN AND Balance, REPOSITORY.

"HAIL SACRED POLITY, BY FREEDOM REAR'D!
"HAIL SACRED FREEDOM, WHEN BY LAW RESTRAIN'D!"
BEATTIE.

HUDSON, (New-York) TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 1807.

Original.

'Hither the products of your closet-labors bring,
Enrich our columns, and instruct mankind.

FOR THE BALANCE.

EXTRACT

Of a Letter from a learned Traveller.

"IT is hardly credible what ignorant men the democrats choose to represent them in the Legislature. At the last election one was held up for an assemblyman who could not write his name, but signed with a mark. Had this man been elected, and called to take the chair in committee of the whole house, what confusion must have ensued to himself, and what disgrace to the Legislature!

There is a senator from the county of Otsego, who can scarcely write a line without misspelling a word. A manuscript of his happening to fall into my hand, I noticed a few out of numerous blunders; such as *here* for *hear*, *fowl* for *foul*, *deside*, *terrable*, *silance*, *vertexes*, *detale*, *throu*, *frusterat*, *sencable*, *nousion*, *effluvy*, &c. &c. &c. And yet this man is one of the judges of the county court; and when his time as a senator expires, will be set up it is supposed, for a member of congress. He has published several pieces in a newspaper, under the signature of a "plough-jogger," "a big-plough," and "extracts from Jack-Tar's Journals," which he afterwards collected (such is my information) and prevailed with a printer to exhibit in the shape of a pamphlet, the printer having undertaken to correct the inaccuracies in spelling and grammar. This work I have not been able to find. I have seen two pieces of his in the *Otsego Herald* of April 1796, under his own name, from which I extract a sentence or two: "I arise betimes and with my candle and spects, will endeavor to answer your agreeable communications."—"But now sir, I will just slip the truth along side of your face, and see if you know it when you see it."—Here the printer seems to have been inattentive. He ought to have put the truth *before*, and not *slipped it along side* of the face, if he meant the man to see. Again, "What do you think now of the plow-jogger. do you see this furrow two feet wide and one deep, this is but a little of the truth that I have in my magazine. If you should want another furrow I will bring in my big plough with 12 yoke of oxen, and display a column amongst those despotic stumps."—

"From the above you will discover the genius of *democrats*, between whom and *republicans* there is a *furrow* as wide and deep as that made by the senator's *big plough*. The federalists are republicans; and so are many of the opposite party; but the democrats ought to be classed as a distinct race; if there be, as Mr. Jefferson asserts, "*different races*" of men. I am told that the senator is not as popular as formerly—that even his own sect think that he has not so much truth in his *magazine* as he pretends—that he draws his *furrows* crooked—that his *oxen* are *bulls*—and that he runs his plough against the *stumps*.

"I have not satisfied myself as to the virtue of certain medicinal springs found in this country. Not having any chemical apparatus, I cannot make the proper experiments. The most famous springs are at Ballstown, in the county of Saratoga, and the Harrowgate water in the vicinity of the city of Albany. The former is a place of great resort during the warm months, for the idle and dissipated, who, whatever may be said of the sick, injure their healths and waste their fortunes. Some of the ladies are known to pride themselves on the quantity of water they will drink at a time and through the day. Imprudent as this conduct is, it is not fonnd to be very prejudicial, the water being remarkably *diuretic*. The Harrowgate spring being contiguous to Albany, must be beneficial to the citizens; particularly by encouraging them to rise early and take a morning walk. The situation is romantic and pleasant. The water is not so disagreeable to the taste as to the smell; and it is advisable in drinking to suspend, as much as possible, the latter sense. I am of opinion that frequent visits would remove debility, promote cheerfulness, and strengthen the appetite more than any bitters."

FOR THE BALANCE.

THOUGHTS.

THE least hurtful way of using tobacco, is smoaking it, but he is best off who never uses it in any way.

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Persons apparently of real piety have gone occasionally to the theatre, but they never have nor can be frequenters of it. Let its advocates say what they will, it is the most dangerous of all amusements.

—

A student at college who was a competitor with other students for a premium to be conferred on the best speaker, complained to his class-mate, that he could not dress to the same advantage as the others. His class-mate said, Do not trouble yourself about that; for you will not have spoken long before the audience will never think of your dress. This was a fine compliment.

—

Though it is not necessary that a man should write a fine and elegant hand, yet he may and ought to write one easily legible. Some persons offend in this respect, and puzzle their correspondents to read their letters.

—

Soon after the surrender of Burgoyne, a gentleman being asked for a toast, gave extempore the following:

"Here is a health to the states,
"And the brave General Gates,
"Whose conduct in history will shine;
"Who, in the year seventy-seven,
"By the assistance of Heaven,
"Defeated the important Burgoyne."

MENTOR.

FOR THE BALANCE.

TORPEDO.

THE citizens of the United States are the most inventive and enterprising of any on the face of the whole earth. Nothing more is necessary to confirm this assertion than the late device of *torpedoes* which are to protect our commerce, supersede the use even of gun-boats, annihilate the navies of Europe, and put the ocean into a turmoil.

It is a fact that a British 74 lying quietly in a harbour, her men all on shore, or fast asleep, can be completely destroyed by placing a sufficient quantity of gunpowder under her, and communicating a spark to it; nay, that the whole British fleet can be first blown up and then sunk, in like manner and circumstances. The only thing required is to convey the powder nicely under the ships, and afterwards set fire to it. There cannot be a doubt but in this way, the wooden walls of Old England may be entirely demolished, to say nothing of France, Russia, and other powers which might have the audacity to attack us.

In case the same thing should occur to the noddles of Britons, they must transport the torpedoes across the Atlantic. They could not frame them on our coasts, for fear of our *light horse*; and if they bring them along, we have no vessels against which to act. This is a singular advantage of the plan; it operates all on the side of those who have no force.

The expense too of this great naval preparation will be small. It will not be necessary to blow up above six or seven ships in a season; which will not cost more than to support a single ship of the line for the same time, and which may traverse the seas seeking adventures and finding none. Had a torpedo been in readiness, and well fastened to the Leopard after her attack upon the Chesapeake, the powder dry, and the locks and flints in prime order, so as to let fly at a precise moment, verily she could never make a second attack. In short, the invention is admirable, and bids fair to render unnecessary the parade of more or of any gun-boats.

ARCHIMEDES.

Editor's Closet.

I have received the following note from Dr. Porter, Surgeon-Dentist; and from some smart things which it contains, I am led to believe it was intended for the public eye. So it seems the Doctor will draw me into the typographical field with him, "*in spite of my teeth.*"

Mr. CROSWELL, *Editor of the Balance.*

SIR,

In the 29th No. of your paper, a communication made its appearance under the signature of Boastum. It was an intended attack on my profession, in order to bring it into contempt; which would, if the author's intention had succeeded, prevented my being employed. It evidenced a clownish attempt at wit, but unfortunate for its author, his attempt appears to have outstretched the extent of his genius, and to have left naked to the world a mind devoid of every manly and noble sentiment, pourtraying a malignant and base disposition. If these are characteristics which do not properly belong to its author, let him proclaim himself their superior, avow his name, and if he is deserving he shall meet the attention due to a gentleman. In a subsequent number of your paper I have observed your remarks on a communication of *Candidus*. It seems however, that his language renders his communication inadmissible. You ask "what have anonymous blackguards to do in such an affair?" Had the sentiment which results from the question been previously entertained, I am inclined to think your paper would never have become the vehicle of such a communication as Boastum, without a different apology afterward from what appeared. You state that you have rendered me justice in your editorial capacity Could you suppose simply noting that Doctor Porter wishes us to say he can prove he is no impostor, would be satisfactory? No, sir; I must take liberty of telling you that if your ideas of justice, or what was due me in this respect, were limited by the extent of such a note, that I fear you look most on one side, nor am I alone in my apprehensions. You refer the controversy to me personally. Sir, it is a controversy I disdain as much as I do the mean vulgarity of Boastum's attack, and feel too confident an assurance of my own superiority ever to fear the attacks of an anonymous slanderer.

Yours, &c.

J. B. PORTER.

Catskill, August 10th, 1807.

The old Spanish proverb says "When a man's breeches are torn, he should sit still." Had the Doctor profited by this precept, he would have been contented with the reparation I had formerly made him for his supposed injury. But since he chooses to take the sword of his defence into his own hand, he is welcome to wield it in the best manner he can; and if all his strugglings only serve to shew that I had been too charitable in supposing him to be no impostor, I shall not lift a finger to prevent it. I confess that I can now discover but one circumstance to prove that he actually is not an impostor—that is, *our corporation have not claimed half his profits*, as is the case when mountebanks, learned pigs, shaved bears, and other choats come to town!

The following sample of democratic politeness and erudition, was lately received per mail, directed to "Herry Croswill Hudson Printer of the Ballence;" and as I paid *ten cents* for it, I think I have a right to avail myself of its beauties, to adorn my paper:—

Sir I had receivd a sficiunt number of your Papors three months Since and ardred your agent to stop the Cursed things from Comming but they Did not So I wish you to send nomore of them but Send your a count for they are filled with all kindes of perlution from Jonathan R Ames in Hosack July the 15ths 1807
Herry Croswill
Send your acount to the Post master in troy

I will not trouble the post-master with this *gentleman's* account; but by subjoining it to this article, will give him an opportunity of paying it, as soon as he pleases.

JONATHAN R. AMES

To HARRY CROSWELL Dr.

To "The Balance," from No 1, Vol. 6, to No. 29, Vol. 6, when stopped. } $1..12½

Extract from a Letter.

"President Jefferson's letter to the *King of Holland*, a brother of Bonaparte, appears to me more than imprudent. It might lead a reader to think, that *monarchy* was approved, and the introduction of it wished for in this country. The expressions "congratulations on the event" [accession to the throne of Holland] and "no event which interests their welfare can be indifferent to us," seem to have this aspect. Though Mr. Jefferson never intended that his letter should be published, any more than the one to *Mazzei*; yet a man of true *republican* virtue and dignity will not sneak, and cringe, and whine, to please any potentate upon earth.

"I have been informed that the letter reported to have been written by Mr. Jefferson, during the war, soliciting and obtaining a British protection, was written to Sir Harry Clinton, and not to Gen. Arnold, as has been asserted—that it was *written while* Mr. Jefferson took refuge in *Carter's* mountain—and that proof of the fact is to be found in the diary of William Smith, Chief Justice of Canada. Such is said to be the account of one of the Executors of Mr. Smith's will; but it is supposed that the original letter of Mr. Jefferson to Sir Harry has been destroyed, or carried off. Mr. Edward Livingston, therefore, was perfectly safe in denying that he ever saw a letter to Gen. Arnold. There may be, as I hope there is, nothing in the story. Admitting the fact, I knew brave men (true they were without hole or cave) who at a certain time, quaked. Admitting the fact, the protection turned out to be of no service; and protection and allegiance are allowed to be reciprocal. All is report to me, I assert nothing; but wish for an explanation from those who have it in their power.

"I despair of any substantial defence for the country until gun-boats, light horse, and torpedoes have been tried. The light horse have really surrounded and taken five men belonging to one of the British vessels; who, probably were a fishing party, or might have come on shore on a *pressing occasion*. I doubt whether the proclamation will authorize the detention of them, as it extends only to what the British carry away"—****

☞ Since the elevation of W. W. VAN NESS, Esq. to the bench of the Supreme Court, THOMAS P. GROSVENOR and THOMAS BAY, Esqrs. have taken his former office, as his successors in business.

Selected.

From the Repertory.

COMMERCIAL RESTRICTION.

IF any man will prove to us, that it is more expedient, or more of the true American, to accommodate our political speculations on the foreign relations of our country to the foolish and mistaken notions of street harranguers, rather than to utter the words of truth and soberness, we are ready to sacrifice all we acquire by studying men and things—the interests of nations, the principles by which they ought to be governed, and the dictates of reason and justice. But until that is done, we feel it a duty, paramount to all others, to state things as they really are, and construe our inferences accordingly. If a people refuse to practice upon the truth, because they can imagine something else more agreeable, they voluntarily plunge into errors, which will probably lead them into embarrassment.

Commercial Restriction is a favorite topic with many. By some of our great men, it is deemed the strength of our nation, and all other resources of power are abandoned, for the imaginary strong hold we possess in this. If the doctrine be true, let it be demonstrated by some plausible train of reasoning, and not by base, unfounded invectives against those, who see nothing but disappointment and ruin, as the consequences of such a reliance.

Shallow politicians, in their *mind's eye* suspend the commerce of the United States; and confining their views to the first and direct effects of such a measure, they never admit into their contemplations what would certainly follow.

There are now but *two* commercial nations in the world; Great Britain, *first*, and the United States of America the *second*. In the case of a rupture with us, the former will possess the *only protected commerce* on the ocean. The nations of Europe *must* have intercourse with other parts of the world, and so *must* we; and if the English can, by their naval superiority, prevent our continuing to supply France, her other enemies and ourselves, with what the relative circumstances of all render necessary, she will, directly or indirectly, find the means of keeping up the wonted intercourse, herself. This will be the second effect of *our* ceasing to trade; not that *trade will cease*. A state of war will not prevent her from supplying, even her enemies, with what they much want, and what she could furnish with advantage to herself. This has been experienced, during the present and recent wars, just as far as the abundance and freedom of our commerce left it necessary. Let our commerce be relinquished, and her's would of necessity, in some way, introduce itself, to supply the deficiency, not even excepting our own wants. Of this latter position the history of our revolutionary war affords incontrovertible evidence.

Where then will be the mighty advantage to us, of our adopting, as a war measure, a plan of commercial restriction. We shall throw trade out of our hands, and we may find it very difficult to regain it. Trade has its habits;—if we put nations into the habit and in a way of doing without us, we only lessen our own consequence and injure ourselves. It is for our interest, on the contrary, to supply all the world if we can; and to make it always more convenient to be supplied by us than any other nation, or we shall find the truth of that trite, but very just and important maxim, *there is no friendship in trade.*

The last war taught our eastern settlements, which depended for their bread, on the lumber trade with us, to cultivate their fields and supply themselves. They acquired a habit of it, which has not changed since the peace, though their population has immensely increased. We can refuse the West India colonies our beef, pork, fish and corn. They will be under the necessity of taking the same articles of others who may offer to supply them, or of raising themselves which would not be difficult. Much the same would be the effect every where. Then what would be the advantage of such a war measure? *We* should *gain* a *loss*, a very heavy one. Like an inconsiderate mechanic, who quarrels with his employer, in the full persuasion that he will be avenged in withholding his services. Another is engaged on the same terms, or his employer strips off his coat and goes to labor himself, and perhaps finds he can do his own business. The work goes on, the mistaken workman loses his job, and solicits employment elsewhere under a disadvantage, or starves.

No—we are the second commercial nation in the world. We ought of course to be the second maritime power. Let us never teach nations to supply their wants without us, but make our intercourse every where convenient. Commerce, as it grows, furnishes means for the defence of itself.—The more commercial, the more rich; the more rich, the more able to be formidable and command respect. But if when molested we only fly to a state of nature, we may to be sure, become as independent and as poor as our savages; and perhaps the world will deem us a nation of philosophers, but some more cunning and spirited nation will take our place. Americans, think on these things; these are not the fantasies of a visionary's brain. It is the voice of common sense the counsel of observation.

From the Evening Post.

"*Kissing goes by favor.*"—Courtesy is every way as proper between sovereigns, as between individuals, and we are not disposed to criticise such behavior in our present sovereign towards any *brother* sovereign in Europe; all we have to remark on the following curious epistle, taken from the Aurora of to-day, is, that it must naturally excite a little surprise at first, to perceive the republican, Mr. Jefferson, expressing his "*brotherly concern*" for a king, and tendering him his congratulations on his being put in possession of the Throne of Holland, late a *republic!* The surprise will, however, cease, at perceiving that it is a *French king* and Bonaparte's brother *Louis.* In style it resembles that of one of the Barbary princes.

London, May 29.

Copy of a letter from the President of the United States of America to the *King of Holland*, intercepted by one of the ships of the North Sea squadron, under command of admiral Russel:—

"*Great and good Friend,*

"Having received your letter of September last, which notifies your accession to the throne of Holland, I tender you, in behalf of the United States, my congratulations on this event. Connected with that nation by the earliest ties of friendship, and maintaining with them uninterrupted relations of peace and commerce, no event which interests their welfare can be indifferent to us. It is, therefore, with the greatest pleasure I receive the assurances of your majesty, that you will continue to cherish those ancient relations, and we shall, on our part, endeavor to strengthen your good will, by a faithful observance of justice, and by all the good offices which occasion shall permit.

Distant as we are from the powers of Europe, and devoted to pursuits which seperate us from their affairs, we still look with brotherly concern on what affects those nations, and offer constant prayers for their welfare. With a friendly solicitude for your majesty's person, I pray God that he may always have you, great and good friend, in his holy keeping.

Written at the city of Washington, the 28th day of February, 1807.

Your good friend,

THOS. JEFFERSON.

By order of the President,

JAMES MADISON, *Sec. of State.*"

WASHINGTON CITY, July 31.

By the President of the United States of America.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS great and weighty matters claiming the consideration of the Congress of the United States form an extraordinary occasion for convening them, I do by these presents appoint Monday the twenty-sixth day of October next, for their meeting at the City of Washington; hereby requiring the respective Senators and Representatives then and there to assemble in Congress, in order to receive such communications as may then be made to them, and to consult and determine on such measures as in their wisdom may be deemed meet for the welfare of the United States.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the seal of the United States to be hereunto affixed, and signed the same with my hand.

Done at the City of Washington, the thirtieth day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seven; and in the thirty-second year of the independence of the U. States.

TH: JEFFERSON.

By the President,

JAMES MADISON,

Secretary of State.

Miscellany.

THE ARCH-POLITICIAN,

NO. VII.

THE Politician may be indifferently a professor of religion or not. If a professor, he must have no more than the profession, lest he find it troublesome to reconcile the divine precepts with many parts of his conduct; and if an infidel, this need not prevent him, at times, to quote scripture and talk religiously to those who are under the influence of old prejudices. It must be granted however, that the Politicians who make the greatest figure at this day are of the latter description; and that, where they have had a religious education, they have found it convenient to shake off all its restraints. *Peregrinatus* was once a Preacher of the gospel, and employed himself in sacred poesy; but since he went abroad, he has renounced all his superstitious notions, and become perfectly *illuminized*. In a letter to one of his friends, recommending Paine's Age of Reason, he says, He rejoices to think, that the "DAMNABLE MUMMERY OF CHRISTIANITY" is fast disappearing every where. I have authentic information that the expression marked is the very one used in his letter. There is some ground to believe, from the intercourse which subsisted between him and Mr. Paine, that the age of reason had at least his revising touch. What a blessed triumvirate did these two with *Legatus* make, and what honour did they reflect on our dear country! Some of the positions I have already mentioned cannot be better illustrated than in the following characters, which possess also this advantage, that they will bring us nearer home.

NAUTICUS is warm and active in whatever cause he espouses. At the adoption of the new constitution, he was a conspicuous federalist; but, whether from disappointment in not obtaining an office, whether swayed by family-connexions, whether from a fickle and resentful disposition, or whether from any other motive, he soon joined the opposition to the measures of government, and has been unwearied in his exertions ever since. Not having any particular occupation to engage his attention, his time and thoughts are devoted to political societies, meetings for elections, and conversation on the present posture of affairs. He is ever spying and whispering to his associates some horrid effects of the funding system, some bribery, and some devilish machinations in the leading men against the common weal. None of the printers please him; even the Aurora and the Citizen are not highly enough seasoned for his palate, or can supply food to his insatiable appetite. He has never been, as far as I know, elected a member of the Legislature, and he consoles himself with the superior pleasure of creating members. He abides by the staff and guards the camp, while others are employed in service abroad. Nauticus is a professor of the christian religion, and yet he appears to offend daily against its precepts by resentment towards, not only his enemies, but those who are his fellow-professors, and who are studious to do him a kindness. Let a man only differ from him in political sentiments, and hatred seems to succeed with him to formerly avowed friendship. He is now growing old, and it is to be wished, that amidst his cares for the state, he would think more of his personal and future welfare. Perfect a Politician as he may be, and well as he may serve to be produced for illustration, I dare not say either seriously or jocosely, that these qualities will stand the test in another world.

TERTULLUS is more consistent in that he makes no profession of Religion. Descended from great and pious ancestors, he is one of the numerous examples to prove that grace does not run in the blood. What his sentiments as to religion are, if he deigns to speak on the subject at all, his reserve and cunning will not suffer him to disclose; but from his being never seen in a church, tho' he may be a Jew or a Mahometan, we conclude that he is no Christian.——He has filled several important stations in political life, and has aimed at still higher. His eloquence is of the specious, artful, insinuating, and persuasive kind, which he exerts to effect in a deliberative body; but he is supposed to be indebted for his success more to his unbounded intrigue out of doors. His talents qualify him to be a leader, and he is acknowledged as such by his party, whom he will certainly serve, like a true politician, as long as thinks it to be for his own interest. —Here, at present, I will drop the curtain, and conclude with a short story which I picked up by my reading. A certain person came into a Bookseller's shop, and on opening a volume of Pope's Works, lighted on these two lines:

"Some have for wits, and then for poets past,
"Turn'd Critics next, and prov'd plain fools at last.

He threw down the book in great wrath, and swore that the author meant him. Every reader will apply the characters and the story in whatever manner he may judge proper.

COLUMBUS.

From the Evening Post.

STAATSBURGH, 22d July, 1807.

DEAR SIR,

YOU request my opinion on the various propositions for the defence of the harbor of New-York. Really I have no pretensions to the character of an Engineer. It is true that when I expected to have made arms a profession. I bestowed some attention on the art of fortification; but it is more than 30 years ago, and the little I then acquired has been since diminished by devoting my life to other pursuits. I cannot however think it requires a great deal of science or skill to determine on the best mode and points of defence for the harbor, which notwithstanding the various opinions to the contrary, I believe not only susceptible of defence, but of being as strongly fortified as any on the globe, and rendered as capable of bidding a bold defiance to the navy of even Great Britain. But it is not to be done by magic. Adequate and substantial appropriations alone can effect it.

I fully coincide with the opinion that an attempt to protect the city by batteries on the wharves will be an useless expenditure of public money; and I think it not difficult to prove that with a Parapet on every wharf from the Flagstaff to the State-Prison, a few line of battle ships with a Bomb Ketch, would be sufficient notwithstanding, to lay the city under contribution.

It is well ascertained from experiment that a 13 inch shell may be thrown with effect from a Sea Mortar with her greatest charge of powder which is 30 lbs. two miles, and that a 24 lb. shot will range much further, when discharged with the most efficient elevation and velocity—Of course ships may take positions where not one shot in a thousand from your batteries would probably effect them, and from whence every shot of their's would be as effective as if fired from a distance of not more than five hundred yards from your shore. The object of *their* fire would be a field of more than a thousand acres, compactly covered with buildings, which it would be almost impossible to miss: that of *your's*, the side of a ship, about 14 feet high, and 180 long, which a shot would very rarely hit. But should she be disposed to lie against a work of the description of those we erected a few years since, she certainly would silence it. It has long been a question among Engineers whether any Marine Battery can be constructed of sufficient strength to resist the fire of ships approached to within 600 yards of them. All agree that none but those which are regularly constructed of mason work can do it long, and even these are held in contempt by naval commanders. A mere *irregular* parapet of wood and earth, *unconnected* with a rampart and supported by its own weight alone, must be a feeble defence against the compact battery of a ship of the line. The defence of Fort Moultrie in 76 against two fifty gun ships, several sloops of war, and a ketch, under the commadd of Sir Peter Parker, is certainly an instance in some measure refutive of the above opinion—But it must be remembered that Fort Moultrie was a regular Polygon of four bastions, and curtains finished on the water front, with high Parapet and merlons of palmetto (a soft spungy wood, peculiar to southern climates, incapable of splinter or longitudinal fracture) mounted with fifty-two pieces of ordnance, most of them of large calibre.

If the Port of New-York is to have no other defence than such as I have alluded to, I should prefer moveable batteries of cotton to fixed ones of earth and such timber as our country affords.—I believe they would afford a greater security, would certainly be less expensive, because the cotton would always command some price, and more convenient, because your commerce would not be obstructed, nor the appearance of your city injured, by permanent incumbrances on your wharves. The manner in which I would apply the cotton should be, to have it well pressed into cases of raw hide of the size of an ordinary gabion, well painted or tarred, and sanded to secure the contents against fire. With these, and heavy artillery on field carriages, a battery might always be opposed to a ship in the

course of a few minutes after she should be moored.

If permanent works are to be resorted to, and certainly nothing short of them will afford that security which the city is entitled to, and which it ought to have, the important questions then arise, where shall they be erected, and what shall be their construction? The Narrows, though generally preferred, is not in my opinion the most elegible situation. My objections to it are —The want of a line of fire of sufficient extent—The width of the passage, which would of itself be a sufficient protection to a ship against material injury—The depth of the channel, and rapidity of the current, which would render the practicability of sinking a cone problematical, and if practicable a very questionable compensation for its expence. The distance from the height of ground on the Staten-Island side of the Narrows to the water's edge is 330 yards on a horizontal level. From thence to Hendrick's Reef on the opposite side is 1748 yards, and from the Reef to the Long-Island shore 440 with an intervening channel of 8 feet water. A ship then passing in the mid channel would be more than one thousand yards distant from any fire that could be kept upon her either from the Reef or height of land, a distance at which a cannon shot directed at a small and moving object must be very uncertain. Gunners run into many errors upon the subject of point-blank shot. There is, in strictness, no such thing. The experiments of Edgeworth, Taylor, Robius and the Marquis de Montalembert, shew, that a 24 pound shot thrown with its highest battering charge, which is 16 pounds of powder, on a horizontal plane, will, at the distance of 500 yards from the cannon's mouth sustain a depression of half a degree, and its deflection from a vertical plane is almost invariably greater, owing to the gravity and elasticity of the atmosphere, and a variety of other anomalous causes. Nor will the promised advantage of a plunging shot from the height of land on the Staten-Island side be realized. The height is 138 feet, which as a tangent to a radius of one thousand yards will subtend an angle of but 2 degrees and 45 minutes: A shot then passing from this height through a ship in a direct line, would pass out of her, admitting her to be 45 feet beam, about 20 inches lower than it entered her; consequently there would be little chance of its entering above and passing out beneath her water line. I cannot vouch for the accuracy of this calculation, having no tables of Logarithms, though it certainly is not far from the truth —The height of land is no object, for at the distance of one thousand yards the most efficient shot against a ship, because the most certain, is the *ricochet*, which is best thrown from a water battery. We have had two instances within our own waters of the facility with which ships can pass batteries under a long-shot fire.—One in '76, when the Phœnix and Roebuck British frigates (I think those were their names) passed our city; the other when admiral Arbuthnot's fleet passed fort Sullivan in '80.

In the efficiency of Booms and submarine explosions as a principal defence I have no confidence, from the feebleness of the one, and the difficulty of applying the other. As auxiliaries I have no objection to them. I recollect to have seen a calculation of Robert Erskin's made in '76, at the request of general Washington, of the force with which a first rate ship of the line, moving with a velocity of 14 knots the hour, would strike an opposing obstacle; and if my memory serves me it was equal to a pressure not far short of forty thousand tons weight. No Boom certainly can resist such an impinging force.

To supply the defect of want of strength, a new project, of an angular Boom, with yielding Moorings, has been offered to consideration. This also is liable to objection. The yielding of the anchors must depend on the nature of the bottom. Should they hold, their cables must give way. To obviate this objection, we are told the ship must strike the boom obliquely, at or near one of its saliant angles, and slide along it 'till her force is spent. But I can see no greater difficulty in her striking on a re-entering, than on a saliant angle, in a perpendicular, than in an oblique direction. It is true we are an inventive people, and have made some valuable discoveries, particularly in mechanics; but I should be extremely loth to place the security of so important a city as New-York, on the bare hypothesis of any projector. Shew me where a city has been saved by a boom, and I will respect it.

To understand my plan of defence it will be necessary to lay before you the Chart of the Harbor and its approaches, made by Chauncy and Loss, in 1798. It is in possession of the Corporation. From the Chart it appears that two extensive flats lie in the Bay; the one called Mud Flat, extending along the Long-Island shore, from near Red Hook, to a distance below Yellow Hook.—The other called West Flat, extending north and south from Paulus Hook to Robins' Reef, and thence westerly to Constable Point, at the mouth of the Kills. I propose to narrow the channel to the width of 300 yards, by a fraise work, sunk with well charged Cassons, from a point on Mud Flat, opposite Robins' Reef, westerly to within 300 yards of West Flat, then northerly, keeping the same distance from the flat, to a breast of Bedlow's Island. From a point 480 yards south of Bedlow's Island, the channel to be obstructed by loose stone, thrown into it within 450 yards of Red Hook, leaving the only passage into the harbor between Governor's and Long-Island. From Bedlow's Island to Robin's Reef on West Flat 150 yards retired from its margin, where the average depth of water is about 7 1-2 feet, a foundation of loose stone to be laid, 200 feet wide, for the execution of such works as may be deemed necessary. Bedlow's Island, Governor's Island, Red Hook and the north end of Mud Flat to be strongly fortified, as also at proper intervals the line extending south from Bedlow's Island to Robin's Reef, an extent of two and an half miles. This line would be secure from any attack on the land side, being from one to three miles distant from the Jesey shore. Bedlow's Island and Cowan point would be the proper deposit for military stores, barracks, &c. The form of the works must depend on the skill of the engineer. The extent on the quantum of funds. Whatever may be the form, the revetements, to at least the height of four feet above the Cordon, should be of stone and mason work strongly buttressed, the merlons high and the embrasures wide, subtending an angle of 25 degrees on each side their capitals, or lares. Marine batteries *en Barbette*, where ships can approach within musket shot are exploded. And with reason. The men serving the guns are exposed to the fire of musketry from the ships' tops, and the guns being naked above the fore transom of their carriages, are liable to be dismounted by an enfilading fire. This inconvenience was experienced by the Spaniards when Porto Bello was attacked by admiral Vernon in 39. The water batteries were *en Barbette*, and their defenders were completely driven from quarters by the fire of musketry from the tops. To render the defence complete and prevent an attack by ships cut down, floating batteries, launches, &c. on the rear of the line, extending from Robins' Reef to Bedlow's Island, the passage between the Reef and Constable point, at the mouth of the kills might be obstructed, and the obstructions covered by a redoubt on the point. My reason for retiring the works to 150 yards from the margin of the West Flat is to prevent a ships approaching so near as to lie before a merlon within the angle of the cross fire of the embrasures, and to assure the effect of her musketry. A ship then coming into the harbor would have to pass a line of fire of four miles in no one position at a greater distance than 496 yards from a battery, each gun of which will discover a field of 420 yards. To explain, the Tangent, or line, on which the ship sails, of an angle of 25 degrees, formed by the axis and side of the embrasure, to a radius of 450 yards, is 210, the double of which is 420 yards for the field or space discovered by each gun. The scant to the same radius, which marks the ship's greatest elongation from the gun will be 496 yards. A ship then sailing at the rate of 12 miles the hour, will be exposed for the space of 1 minute and 11 seconds to the fire of each gun. The ordnance should consist of cannon, principally 24 pounders, Howitz, Mortars, and Carronades of large calibre.

These works you will say will require a large sum of money—there is no doubt of that. The object, however, is well worth it, and when we shall be compelled to discover the essential difference between parsimony and œconomy we may perhaps set about it with less ability to accomplish it than at present.

We may however at no very great expence commence with detached parts of the plan. The obstructing the channel from the point below Bedlow's to within 450 yards of Red Hook should be the first thing done. The expence may be easily ascertained. Loose stone may be deposited there at four cents the cubit foot. The greatest depth of water is 8 1-2 fathoms. I prefer this place for the obstruction. First because it may be flanked in every direction by the fire of works erected on Governor's Island, Bedlow's Island, Red Hook and the north end of Mud Flat, so as to prevent a passage being made through it. Second, because it forms a part of a more extensive plan which may at some future day be executed. Yours respectfully,

MORGAN LEWIS.

From the Crisis.

THE ALARM—*No. I.*

WHETHER or not we shall have war with Great Britain depends upon certain circumstances which are not publicly known, and upon some which cannot be foreseen. If the attack of the British be countenanced by their government, or if reparation be not made, in consequence of offence at the treaty having been returned without a ratification on our part, or if war be wished for by Great Britain, it is inevitable, and has already commenced. Even in case she has not meditated a war, resentments may be kindled, violence may succeed to violence, and the respective nations be hurried into arms against each other.

Nothing has yet taken place to hinder an immediate accommodation, if there be mutual forbearance and a sincere desire for peace. The proclamation of the President, and the spirit shown by the people are commendable and highly necessary. Satisfaction for the outrage must be firmly, perseveringly insisted upon until obtained. To recede would be to invite still greater insults, debase the nation, and finally reduce it to a state of abject vassalage. At the same time, all acts of hostility should be avoided as much as possible, before the will of government is declared. Individuals may not without the sanction of the constituted authorities begin and carry on war; but should be exemplarily punished for a conduct tending to involve whole societies in danger and distress.

Though the United States are ill prepared for war with a great maritime power, or rather, are almost defenceless, and must expect for a considerrble time to be the chief sufferer, yet it is far better to engage than submit to degradation.—Necessity will call forth our strength, and hasten that preparation which has been so long and so shamefully neglected, and which we were not likely to obtain in any other way. Tho' there has been remonstrance after remonstrance against the exposed situation of our sea port towns, no effectual measures have been taken to supply these wants. Had these been provided for, insults, probably, would never have happened. It betrays exceeding ignorance of human nature to think that the powerful will refrain from oppressing others when they can do it with advantage and safety to themselves. One ship of war will protect a nation better than a thousand proclamations; indeed, the latter without the support of the former is like the idle wind, or like firing powder without ball. The British vessels are ordered to leave our harbors and waters.—They say they will not. What is to compel them? Our citizens are enjoined to afford them no sustenance. They say they will take it? What is to prevent them? Thus are our threats treated with ridicule and scorn by a contemptible force which we might have been ready to blow to atoms or whelm to the bottom of the ocean.

Is it said that preparation before war would be useless and burdensome, and that we have still time enough? This is contrary to the maxims of sound policy. The way to prevent war is to be prepared for it. The expense of preparation may be also much less than of war, and it will certainly save bloodshed. There is a difference between the preparation necessary in an actual state of war, and no preparation at all. To maintain the former in time of peace, would be folly, and the latter is equally so. The mischiefs arising from being entirely without defence, are that a nation suffers and is disenabled on the first onset; and that the provision of means becomes weighty and grievous.—Every one knows the advantage of striking speedily and effectually; and that means are easy and almost imperceptible by the people, when they are gradual. There never can be a more favorable season than that which the United States have enjoyed for many years past. Happy, if at length they are warned of their danger. It is not yet too late, though they will have to encounter difficulties which might have been easily avoided.

The present circumstances of this country show in a strong light the wicked clamour which was artfully raised against Mr. Lewis, the late Governor, for reviewing and disciplining the militia, and representing to the Legislature the want of arms and a military apparatus. In these things, appears now more than ever, he has discovered himself to be a soldier and a statesman. It is true, that the sudden approach of a war was not known at the election, nor that the state would so soon need the talents of a revolutionary and skilful officer; but he is entitled to the more credit, and the regret for his non-election is the more increased. His warmest opponents must now praise him; the Legislature must adopt the measures which he recommended; and his successor must imitate his noble example.

EPAMINONDAS.

From the Evening Post.

The Voice of truth.—We have lately seen a pamphlet entitled "*The voice of Truth or thoughts on the affair between the Leopard and Chesapeake, in a letter from a gentleman in New-York to his friend;*" and on reflection we feel it to be our duty to take some notice of it.

Observing the quotation in the title page of "*Tros, Tyriusve, mihi, nullo discrimine agetur*" we really supposed it meant to intimate that the author was desirous of being considered purely American; without predilection for Great Britain or France; instead of which, to our no small surprize, we found immediately on entering the first page, that he intended to avow himself equally opposed to federalists as to democrats, in short to set himself up as the Grand *Censor* of the American people. The poor artifice of pretending to feel so extremely for the honor of his native country can pass upon no one; and his assurance in attempting to ally himself with the federal party will meet with nothing from them but contempt. We want no such partizans.

Non tali auxilio, nec defensoribus istis
Tempus eget—

The truth is and it cannot be concealed, the British foreigner appears too plainly in every line; a British foreigner, actuated by the hope of gathering a few pence, and instigated by some personal animosity. With such honorable views, (for his language and sentiments accord with no other) such pure and dignified motives, this pamphleteer has the arrogance to arraign the conduct of the best men among us, without regard to parties, before the bar of his judgment-seat. He has the consummate impudence to publish to the world that the democrats here "consider the federalists as players of the second or third fiddle in their overture; while the federalists seem to be rendered insensible by their humiliation to the loss of their importance and dignity,"—that they "have slipped into the dirty worn-out shoes of the democrats—condescended to play the mischievous demagogue and act with all the servile arts that men of that trade use to cajole mankind"—that "the hungry office-hunters who compose the pack, push their hydra heads into the noose of Jacobinism in hopes like Lovegold to "touch, touch, touch"—that "for election purposes they made a new league with Lewis"—that "they had been three times repulsed by the people with a shameful discomfiture"—that "some *few* honest spirited federalists, though mortified, consoled themselves with the hope that being now probably disgusted with experiments of that kind, they [the federal party] however *hungry they might be* for the fishes, would be, if not ashamed, at least, wearied with throwing their lines to the populace, only to draw them up over and over again, with their hooks naked, their clumsy bait nibbled away from them, and their sinking lead all over bemired with the filthy mud and slush of democracy," and that the federal party "have absolutely converted themselves into buttrices to support the democratic faction."

If the reader is not by this time disgusted with such insufferable impudence, there is enough more behind, recommended by a due mixture of the most exquisite nonsense: as for instance:

"I very much fear, my dear friend, that our whole political *scheme* in this country, from the heart of the marrow to the surface of the skin, from the crown of the head to the nail of the little toe, from the magistrate to the half-fed blustering editor who issues his daily dole of calumny to purchase his daily cheer, is, from the very necessity of our vitiated habits, in a state not one whit more flatttering to human pride than those same players and prostitutes of whom Foote speaks. Provided the purpose of the prostitute be answered, that is to say, provided the *peculium* comes into the pocket, it gives little trouble whether the cullies be well or ill—whether they come off sound or infected."

We do not stop to subject such writing to criticism or we might ask what ideas can be annexed to a *political scheme's* being vitiated? And we might ask too what he means by stating that "By the two adverse parties (federalists and democrats) the whole population of the country is set in a flame"—or by saying that "there is now an interested conjunction of the two political bodies of the country (federalists and democrats) to deceive them (the people?") Are the federalists and democrats then a set of foreign emissaries introduced into our coun-

try, and totally distinct from the people? From these and several other specimens that might be produced, it is evident that the writer is not merely chargeable with engaging in a bad cause which he does not understand, from bad motives, but that the tenement of his brain is not a little out of repair.

(To be continued.)

Hudson, *August* 11.

Be it our weekly task,
To note the passing tidings of the times.

It would seem that the Commissioners appointed to superintend fortifying the port of New-York, have not thought proper to adopt any of the numerous plans that have been presented for their consideration; but are going upon the old original plan of their own, and have actually commenced building and sinking blocks from Perkin's Point on Governor's Island, to the edge of the channel. On this point we understand is to be erected a strong Fort which will mount 50 heavy guns and upwards.—*Ev. Post.*

Captain Seaman, from Richmond, informs, that he left Hampton Roads on Monday last; that the American Frigate Chesapeake, and French Frigate Cybelle were laying at Craney Island, apparently ready for sea; that a British brig of war of 18 guns was at anchor in the roads; and the Triumph 74, Capt. Hardy, was at anchor in Linhaven Bay; no other British ships of war in sight.—*Mer. Adv.*

We are informed that in consequence of a letter received from the President of the United Sates, the Governor of the commonwealth of Virginia, with the advice of Council, has directed all the militia now on service at Norfolk and Hampton to be immediately disbanded; except one company of Artillery, under the command of Capt. Neistill, and Capt. R. B. Taylor's Troop of Cavalry, the former of which is to be stationed at Norfolk, and trained to the management of Artillery by the use of the guns at Fort Norfolk; the latter to be on duty in the vicinity of Lynhaven Bay, for the purpose of watching the motions of the British squadron, and enforcing the President's proclamation. We further learn that the Executive have thought proper to call out a company of Infantry from the county of Princess Anne, to assist the Cavalry in performing this service; and that Major Thomas Newton, junr. is appointed Commander of the whole; a Brigadier General being unnecessary for the command of so small a detachment. it appears therefore that General Mathews will not continue in employment.

We find from this information that the President of the United States is convinced that the frigate la Cybelle and Chesapeake together with the gun-boats now at Norfolk and others about to be sent thither, aided by the batteries of Fort Nelson and Fort Norfolk, will be sufficient for the defence of that place from any attack which may for some time be expected.

NORFOLK, July 27.

Yesterday fortnight the Chesapeake frigate was towed up into our harbour, little better than a hulk without a mast or shroud standing, to day we have the satisfaction to perceive her compleatly ready for sea. Great credit is due to *Commodore Decatur* and his officers, for the activity which he and they have used in preparing this ship for sea in so short a time, and under very unfavourable circumstances.

The REVENGE, government schooner, is in Hampton Roads, and proceeds immediately to England with the communications from the executive to our ministers in London, touching the affair of the Chesapeake. She may be expected to arrive in England about the first of September; before which, the British government and people will not only have received an account of the transaction, but of the sentiments which it has excited in the United States, together with the President's proclamation. The first account of this affair will probably reach England about the first of August, by two ships that left this place the 27th and 28th of June, by each of which we forwarded to our correspondents our *extra* sheet of the 24th of June, besides which we know that an unusual number of the *Ledger* went by the same vessels.—The proclamation went from here on the 9th or 10th of July, by two vessels for England. The minds of the government and of the British nation will therefore be prepared before the Revenge arrives; the effects produced in England we shall discover and possibly feel, about the middle of September. If the British government is determined to sustain admiral Berkeley, orders will be given to seize and capture our vessels without exception; if otherwise they will not be interrupted. The English government will perceive that war is inevitable, if it avows the principle of searching our national ships, and act accordingly.

A letter from Lexington, dated July 15, states that Mr. *Blannerhasset* was arrested at that Place, and that Judge Todd had directed the marshal to take him on to Richmond. He is confined in jail, until the marshal is ready to proceed with him.

Miranda.—By a gentleman lately arrived from Trinidad, we are informed, that *Miranda* was still at that place, and that he was waiting for intelligence and assistance from England, for the purpose of making a further attempt on the Spanish Maine—Many are of opinion that he has a British commission, and acts under the orders of that government. *No expedition* appears to be fitting out from Trinidad for the Maine at present.—*People's Friend.*

From the Boston Gazette of Monday.

We have conversed with a gentleman who left Malta the 8th June. He confirms the account that the English had been defeated in Egypt; and that a frigate and sloop of war had brought intelligence to Malta, with the bodies of two Generals killed in the action, one of which he understood to have been that of Major-General Frazer. [The general staff of the corps which went to Egypt were major-generals Frazer, and Wauchope, and Brigadier general Stuart. The British loss was stated to be at 1500 killed and wounded: more than one half of the troops which landed. It is supposed the British were defeated by the Albanians, mentioned in general Frazer's letter announcing the capture of Alexandria, and which were stated to be on the march to relieve that city. An account of the death, by disease, of rear admiral sir Thomas Louis, Bt. was also received at Malta. This leaves the British squadron in the Archipelago without an admiral—Duckworth and sir Sidney Smith having previously sailed for England. Louis was one of the best officers in the service. He was with Nelson at the battle of the Nile; and had been invested with several orders of knighthood.

To Correspondents.

Lines addressed to a lady on the death of her favorite Cat, shall have a place next week.

"*Epitaph for Emmett,*" not suitable for the public eye.

The Knot.

MARRIED,

In this city, by the Rev. Mr. Sears, Capt. JOAB CENTER, of Hartford, to Miss EUNICE JENKINS, of this place; daughter of the late Capt. Benjamin Jenkins.

At Aurora, in Cayuga county, on the 23rd of July, by the Rev. Hezekiah Woodruff, Mr. BENJAMIN CARPENTER, late of the Flats, near Albany, to Miss CHARLOTTE B. ALDEN, step-daughter to the Rev. Mr. Woodruff.

COMMUNICATION.

Strange, but true!!!

RHESA ELTON, of Claverack, addresses himself to all wondering, news-gaping mortals, and tells them plumply that he is married.

To others he will say,

Married, at Redhook, on Monday the 3rd of August inst. by the Rev. Mr. Kittle, RHESA ELTON, of Claverack, to MARIA WEY MURRAY, of the former place, after a courtship of seven years.

Let censure wield her shafts, I heed them not,
My former follies now shall be forgot—
Or recollected, but to turn my mind
To Justice, Friendship, Love to all mankind.

The Knell.

D I E D,

In this city, on Thursday evening last, after a short and very distressing illness, Mrs. BETSEY COLE, wife of Mr. Peter Cole, merchant, aged 28 years.

On the 5th inst. EDWIN BEARDSLEY, son of Mr. Jabez Beardsley, aged 1 year.

At Coxsackie, the 4th inst. after a lingering and painful illness, EZRA REED, Esq. late of this city, in the 68th year of his age.

Wreath.

EXTRACT.

WHILST fortune smiles, and plenty fills your board,
Whilst copious draughts your cheering vaults afford,
Whilst rosy health supports the human frame,
Whilst credit lasts, and still exists your fame,
Whilst you've a plenty, and have cash to spend,
So long you're known, so long you have a friend.
But change the scene—let fickle fortune frown,
You stand forsaken, and alas unknown!
Let wretched poverty and hunger press,
Let want hang out the ensigns of distress;
Let sore affliction sink your feeble frame,
Let *cruel slander* wound your honest fame;
Let neighbors slight you, and let credit fail,
Let sheriffs come, and creditors assail,
Where's then your friends? alas! you search in vain;
Self interest sways, unheeded you complain.
Alas! how oft, in friendship's garb array'd,
Deception triumphs, hapless man's betray'd;
Pretended friends in ev'ry clime abound,
But real friends are "rare as comets" found.
Ye who pretend the human heart to know,
Shew me a friend, and I'll an angel show.

Biographical.

From the Baltimore Federal Gazette.

URIAH TRACY, [whose death was mentioned in the last Balance,] was born in the state of Connecticut, of reputable parents, and resided in a little village called Litchfield. It is understood that he received a liberal education, and having studied the law, he appeared at the bar to great advantage as a practitioner, and afterwards as attorney-general of the state. From this office, and a lucrative practice, he was transferred by the people to a seat in the house of representatives of congress, which he continued to occupy until several years since, he was appointed by the legislature of his state a senator of the United States.

In the house of representatives, he soon became distinguished, and his great reasoning powers conspicuous on every important question. On referring to his speeches, they will be found remarkable for their solidity and point. But, whether we follow him from the college to the bar, or from the house of representatives to the senate we shall find room for admiring his abilities, and perceive his abilities always increasing with the extent of the theatre on which he had to act.

As a companion he was instructive and agreeable. His observations in company, on passing events, and the political system of the day, were always profound and generally seasoned with lively anecdote. His thoughts on all occasions seemed to come from him without premeditation, and under a form that alarmed no one's pride or self-sufficiency. His humour was very easy and natural; like the lightning of a summer's evening, which flashes without thunder, it would shew the object without wounding the person.

His eye and his countenance gave strong indications of his character; both invited to his society, and at once told what was to be expected from it—penetration, good nature, good sense, pleasantry, candor and kindness.

In the hours of his best health and highest spirits, nothing ever escaped from him to offend morals, the decorums of society, or the interests of religion. On the contrary, with weapons of every kind to annoy, he never wantonly attacked any one. His temper, always uniform, and his pleasantry always well-timed, had the effect to make even his bitterest political adversaries abate much of their bitterness in his company.

For the last six years of his life, he had not enjoyed one moment's health, and scarcely in that time one whole hours' relief from suffering; and yet, notwithstanding this state of bodily infirmity, he seldom failed to meet his duty in congress, when able, and was never heard to detail in company the symptoms of his malady, (a dropsy in the breast.)

Writing to a friend, (January, 1807) he says, "I lament your indisposition perhaps more from a knowledge I have of the solid evils which attend sickness, even in its most favorable operations. I know what it is to be severely sick, to such a degree as not to expect life; not to expect any thing; and I know what it is to linger under a feverish debility of body and mind, which renders life as such a burden. During the space of six years I have not enjoyed for one hour, nor for one moment, a state of health, and have scarcely been relieved in the whole time from suffering; yet, blessed be God, I have been enabled to save myself for the most part from an additional evil, which is a peevish, fretful and fretting disposition, that is, I have not known that I suffered in company under the dominion of peevishness."

"Since it has been proper in the wise course of providence, to deprive me of very high health, which for many years I enjoyed, I have endeavored to learn submission, and finding my friends solicitous to preserve my life, and restore my health, I have studied not to give them unnecessary trouble. When I could carry to them a mind if not active and cheerful, yet, which was not depressed and hypochondrical, I went among them, and received from them much kindness and many favors, but when that debility, which is so often my better portion, is upon me like an evil spirit, bowing me to the earth, I cannot knowingly load my friends with a weight of trouble when, at the same time, I obtain no benefit for myself."

Educated in the christian religion, he sincerely believed in it, not because such men as *Bacon*, *Locke* and *Newton* were among its professors, but because, as he has often been heard to say, the evidence upon which it rests, afforded him a full conviction of its truth and divine original. Those who were most conversant with his sentiments know that the objections of infidelity never for a moment shook his faith or his trust in a Redeemer.

In a letter of his to a friend, written on his death-bed, the last he ever wrote with his own hand, he thus expresses himself:

"I can discern one fact in myself, which is, that my sickness has broken down my strength of mind, and dissipated or dried up every source of courage and spirits which I formerly possessed. I retain a most ardent wish, once more to see my family; of this some doubt remains, but hope, still buoys me up above despair.

"Infinite power is the same here, and infinite goodness the same, that they are any where, and every where else; why then should I prefer location in which to draw my last breath? Place is nothing, time is nothing and circumstance nothing; eternity is all to man. This eternity is the property of God himself, and his goodness infinite, unbounded as it is, should fix the steady eye of faith, and regulate that of reason, and certainly silence every complaint."

This sketch of the character of the deceased, though composed in haste, is transcribed in truth. It is a slender tribute, a frail memorial, a fleeting mento, wet with tears, to the memory of a man, who directed his abilities, to his latest breath, to one end, the welfare, greatness and glory of his country.

Such was Uriah Tracy, who has left behind him, among statesmen few equals and none superior; who, after a life of the strictest economy, and the greatest portion of it spent in the public service, died remote from his family, scarcely rich enough to pay his funeral expences.

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